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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 62

COMPLIANCE WITH ARMS LIMITATION AND DISARMAMENT OBLIGATIONS

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

Compliance with arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law,

Convinced that observance of the Charter of the United Nations, relevant treaties and other sources of international law is essential for the strengthening of international security,

Mindful, in particular, of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other obligations on arms

limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament by States parties if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

Stressing that any violation of such agreements and other obligations by States parties not only adversely affects the security of States parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other obligations,

Stressing also that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional stability and to further disarmament, non-proliferation and arms limitation efforts and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the international legal system,

Recognizing, in this context, that full compliance by States parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, inter alia, facilitate the conclusion of additional arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and thereby contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and security,

Believing that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements by States parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role that the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Welcoming the contribution to international peace and regional security that full compliance by States parties with verification provisions of arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements provides,

Also welcoming the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance and verification of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and other obligations,

1. Urges all States parties to arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of all provisions of such agreements;

2. Calls upon all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance by States parties with any provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for progress in the field of disarmament;

3. Also calls upon all Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all States parties of the provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and to maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. Welcomes the role that the United Nations has played in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance that may be necessary in restoring and protecting the integrity of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements;

6. Encourages efforts by all States parties to develop additional cooperative measures, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

7. Notes the contribution that verification experiments and research can make and already have made in confirming and improving verification procedures for arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements under study or negotiation, thereby providing an opportunity, from the time that such agreements enter into force, for enhancing confidence in the effectiveness of verification procedures as a basis for determining compliance;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of is fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements".

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 81

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Austria, Andorra, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, the annex to which contains the Declaration of Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and its resolutions 46/62 of 9 December 1991, 48/84 B of 16 December 1993 and 50/80 B of 12 December 1995,

Mindful of the importance of the activities aimed at the creation of peace, stability, security, cooperation and sustainable economic development in the Balkan region,

Affirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

Emphasizing the urgency of the consolidation of the Balkans as a region of peace, security, stability and good-neighbourliness, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and so enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region,

Noting the desire of the Balkan States to develop good-neighbourly relations among themselves and friendly relations with all nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law,

Expressing its support for the international efforts aimed at the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, initialled at Dayton, Ohio, on 21 November 1995 and signed in Paris on 14 December 1995,[1]

Expressing also its support for the Pact of Stability in Europe, adopted in Paris on 21 March 1995, the Process of Stability and Good-Neighbourliness in South-East Europe (Royaumont Initiative), the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, the activities of the Central European Initiative, as well as for the inter-Balkan process initiated by the Sofia Declaration of 7 July 1996 and further enhanced by the Thessaloniki Declaration on Good-Neighbourly Relations, Stability, Security and Cooperation in the Balkans,[2]

Stressing the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States for the promotion of international cooperation and for the solution of problems among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the importance of the ongoing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States,[3]

Taking note of its deliberations on the subject at the present session,

Mindful of the obligations of all States under the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Notes with interest the views of some States on the development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

2. Emphasizes the importance for all Balkan States to promote mutual cooperation in all fields, and, inter alia, in trade and other forms of economic cooperation, transport and telecommunications, protection of the environment, advancement of democratic processes, promotion of human rights and development of cultural and sport relations;

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[1] See A/50/790-S/1995/999; see Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/999.

[2] A/52/217-S/1997/507, annex I.

[3] A/52/373.

3. Calls upon all Balkan States to endeavour to promote good-neighbourly relations and continually to undertake unilateral and joint activities including confidence-building measures as appropriate, in particular within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

4. Also calls upon all Balkan States and interested States outside the region to participate actively in and support the negotiations on regional arms control foreseen in annex I B, article V, of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a view to reaching first results;

5. Calls upon the relevant international organizations and competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the ongoing process of development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States and invites them to inform the Secretary-General of their activities and of their views on the subject;

6. Stresses that closer engagement of Balkan States in cooperation agreements on the European continent will favourably influence the political and economic situation in the region, as well as the good-neighbourly relations among all Balkan States;

7. Urges normalization of the relations among all States of the Balkan region;

8. Affirms the need for strict compliance with the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity or political independence, the inviolability of international borders and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State;

9. Stresses the urgency of the realization of the aim of the Balkans to become a region of peace, stability, security, cooperation and sustained economic development;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of the Member States particularly those from the Balkan region, and of the relevant international organizations and competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, on the development of good-neighbourly relations in the region and on measures aimed at the creation of peace, stability, security, cooperation and sustained economic development in the Balkan region, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States on the subject;

11. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the subject at its fifty-fifth session.

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71 (d)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/45 B of 10 December 1996,

Determined to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] the first special session devoted to disarmament, as well as of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[2]

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[3] Rarotonga,[4] Bangkok,[5] and Pelindaba,[6] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[7] to, inter alia, the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons, and underlining also the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

Recalling further the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to rights of passage through maritime space, including under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[8]

1. Welcomes the contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[7] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[3] Rarotonga,[4] Bangkok[5] and Pelindaba[6] are making towards freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. Calls for the ratification of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba by all regional States, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] See 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)).

[3] Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

[4] South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty.

[5] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[6] African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

[7] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[8] Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

3. Welcomes the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. Stresses the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament, with the ultimate goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons;

5. Calls upon the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. Encourages the competent authorities of nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to such treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "The nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 76

STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 51/50 of 10 December 1996,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and

to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respect the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[1]

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. Reaffirms that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. Expresses its satisfaction at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. Commends the efforts by the Mediterranean countries in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, and encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting, multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region;

4. Recognizes that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater

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[1] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[2] A/52/427.

understanding among cultures, in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. Calls upon all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. Encourages all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. Encourages the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, which poses a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation;

8. Invites all States of the region to address, through various forms of cooperation, problems and threats posed to the region, such as terrorism, international crime and illicit arms transfers, as well as illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which jeopardize the friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71 (k)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994 and 51/45 M of 10 December 1996,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating

[1] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[2] and in particular the objective of determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons,

Recalling also the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty and the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Noting the efforts by the States possessing the largest inventories of nuclear weapons to reduce their stockpiles of such weapons through bilateral and unilateral agreements or arrangements, and calling for the intensification of such efforts to accelerate the significant reduction of nuclear weapons arsenals,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly those concerning nuclear disarmament, in the Conference on Disarmament during its 1997 session,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time-frame,

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons,[3] issued on 8 July 1996,

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[2] 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex, decision 2.

[3] A/51/218, annex.

1. Underlines once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. Calls once again upon all States to fulfil that obligation immediately by commencing multilateral negotiations in 1998 leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear-weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. Requests all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons".

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FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 68

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh and Pakistan: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3476 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/73 of 10 December 1976, 32/83 of 12 December 1977, 33/65 of 14 December 1978, 34/78 of 11 December 1979, 35/148 of 12 December 1980, 36/88 of 9 December 1981, 37/76 of 9 December 1982, 38/65 of 15 December 1983, 39/55 of 12 December 1984, 40/83 of 12 December 1985, 41/49 of 3 December 1986, 42/29 of 30 November 1987, 43/66 of 7 December 1988, 44/109 of 15 December 1989, 45/53 of 4 December 1990, 46/31 of 6 December 1991, 47/49 of 9 December 1992, 48/72 of 16 December 1993, 49/72 of 15 December 1994, 50/67 of 12 December 1995 and 51/42 of 10 December 1996 concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Reiterating its conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures that can contribute effectively to the objectives of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, as in other regions, will assist in the strengthening of the security of the States of the region against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note with appreciation of the declarations issued at the highest level by the Governments of South Asian States that are developing their peaceful nuclear programmes, reaffirming their undertaking not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social advancement of their peoples,

Welcoming the proposal for the conclusion of a bilateral or regional nuclear-test-ban agreement in South Asia,

Noting the proposal to convene, under the auspices of the United Nations, a conference on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia as soon as possible, with the participation of the regional and other concerned States,

Noting also the proposal to hold consultations among five nations with a view to ensuring nuclear non-proliferation in the region,

Considering that the eventual participation of other States, as appropriate, in this process could be useful,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraphs 60 to 63 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[1] regarding the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, including in the region of South Asia,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General,[2]

1. Reaffirms its endorsement, in principle, of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

2. Urges once again the States of South Asia to continue to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to refrain, in the meantime, from any action contrary to that objective;

3. Welcomes the support of all the five nuclear-weapon States for this proposal, and calls upon them to extend the necessary cooperation in the efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to communicate with the States of the region and other concerned States in order to ascertain their views on the issue and to promote consultations among them with a view to exploring the best possibilities of furthering the efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia".

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] A/52/306.

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Agenda item 71 (j)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Liberia, Mali, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995 and 51/45 K of 10 December 1996 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[1]

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[2]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of smaller States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. Stresses that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. Affirms that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. Calls upon States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. Welcomes the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. Supports and encourages efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

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[2] Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42), annex.

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Agenda item 71 (n)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Bangladesh, Benin, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995 and 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations

among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[1] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. Decides to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament, as a first step, to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

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[1] CD/1064.

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 69

CONCLUSION OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Viet Nam: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined strictly to abide by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[2] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[3] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[4] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[5]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[3] Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[4] Ibid., Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[5] Ibid., Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[6] with a view to reaching agreement on this item,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under that item in that Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995,[7] and also of the decision adopted by the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta from 1 to 6 September 1992,[8] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference reiterated in the Final Communiqué of the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Istanbul from 4 to 8 August 1991,[9] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to reach an urgent agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Noting also the greater willingness to overcome the difficulties encountered in previous years,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995 and 51/43 of 10 December 1996,

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[6] Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27), para. 39.

[7] See A/50/752-S/1995/1035, annex III; see Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/1035.

[8] See A/47/675-S/24816, annex, chap. II, para. 47; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992, document S/24816.

[9] See A/46/486-S/23055, annex I; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1991, document S/23055.

1. Reaffirms the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. Notes with satisfaction that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties as regards evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. Appeals to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. Recommends that further intensive efforts should be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, should be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. Recommends also that the Conference on Disarmament should actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 73

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar and Pakistan: draft resolution

Role of the United Nations in disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having carefully considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"[1] and the proposals contained therein concerning the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat dealing with disarmament,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role and primary responsibility in the field of disarmament,

Recalling in this regard the various resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular the principles and priorities established by consensus in the Declaration and the Programme of Action contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] the first special session devoted to disarmament, which define the role of the United Nations, and form the basis for the existing disarmament machinery, in the context of the implementation of the responsibilities of the Organization under the Charter of the United Nations,

[1] A/51/950.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

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Reaffirming the importance of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, in conformity with paragraph 120 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2]

1. Affirms the vision of promoting international peace and security set out in the Charter of the United Nations and its provisions concerning the non-use of force and the threat of force;

2. Underlines the necessity to further the objectives of promoting disarmament and regulating armaments set out in the Charter on the basis of negotiations reflecting the security interests of all States;

3. Reiterates that the adoption and implementation of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantage over others;

4. Affirms its support for the objectives of nuclear and conventional disarmament, as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament;

5. Reiterates that nuclear disarmament has the highest priority in efforts to advance disarmament on a universal basis;

6. Reaffirms its support for the United Nations machinery on disarmament which is functioning pursuant to the decisions adopted at the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

7. Reaffirms that the Conference on Disarmament is the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament;

8. Affirms that the implementation of international treaties dealing with disarmament should be carried out in accordance with the provisions of those treaties and that questions regarding compliance should be addressed in accordance with those provisions and the mechanisms established or envisaged in those provisions;

9. Affirms that the United Nations Secretariat should support the realization of the objectives of disarmament as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus.

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71 (c)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995 and 51/45 H of 10 December 1996,

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States

and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[1] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[2] which includes the returns of Member States for 1996,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Welcoming further the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[3]

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. Reaffirms its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[1] as provided for in paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[3] and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

3. Calls upon Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide to the Secretary-General by 31 May annually the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L and the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development;[3]

4. Invites Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

5. Decides, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review, and to that end:

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[1] See resolution 46/36 L.

[2] A/52/312 and Add.1.

[3] A/52/316.

(a) Requests Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2000, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[4] with a view to a decision at its fifty-fifth session;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations within his competence contained in his 1997 report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development[3] and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

7. Invites the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

8. Reiterates its call upon all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

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[4] A/49/316 and A/52/316.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] and paragraphs 5 and 6 of the decision entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament" in the Final Document of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[3] concerning the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the importance of agreements on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration of the Heads of State of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997[4] and the statement issued at Tashkent by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I), annex, decision 2.

[4] A/52/112, annex.

Uzbekistan on 15 September 1997 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,[5]

Reaffirming the generally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is a means of achieving general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions, including Central Asia, will help to strengthen peace and stability at both the regional and the global levels and is in the interests of the security of the States in the Central Asian region,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to develop research into nuclear energy and the production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination,

Welcoming the offer of the Kyrgyz Republic to hold a consultative meeting of experts on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia in Bishkek in 1998,

1. Calls upon all countries to support the initiative for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a group of United Nations experts to provide the requisite assistance to the Central Asian countries in the preparation of the form and elements of an agreement on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

3. Decides to consider the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-third session under the agenda item "General and complete disarmament".

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[5] A/52/390, annex.

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Fifty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] and paragraphs 5 and 6 of the decision entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament" in the Final Document of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[3] concerning the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the importance of agreements on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world,

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I), annex, decision 2.

Recalling the Almaty Declaration of the Heads of State of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997[4] and the statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,[5] signed at Tashkent on 15 September 1997,

Reaffirming the generally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is a means of achieving general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions, including Central Asia, will help to strengthen peace and stability at both the regional and the global levels and is in the interests of the security of the States in the Central Asian region,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to develop research into nuclear energy and the production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination,

Welcoming the offer of the Kyrgyz Republic to hold a consultative meeting of experts on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia in Bishkek in 1998,

1. Calls upon all countries to support the initiative for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a group of United Nations experts to provide the requisite assistance to the Central Asian countries in the preparation of the form and elements of an agreement on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

3. Decides to consider the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-third session under the agenda item "General and complete disarmament".

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[4] A/52/112, annex.

[5] A/52/390, annex.